# GOVERNOR GRANHOLM'S PLAN TO GROW OUR ECONOMY, SECURE OUR FUTURE: OVERALL ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR MICHIGAN

## GOVERNOR GRANHOLM HAS A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TO CREATE JOBS AND BOOST MICHIGAN'S ECONOMY

She will "go anywhere and do anything" to create, retain, and grow jobs in Michigan. And, she is fighting hard to protect our families and educate our children. Governor Granholm puts Michigan first.

#### **GROWING THE ECONOMY**

The Governor is going anywhere and doing anything to create jobs for Michigan workers, and direct action by her administration is convincing major corporations to create jobs and expand in Michigan. Keebler relocated its headquarters from Illinois to Battle Creek. Toyota is putting 400 people to work in York Township at its new Technical Center. When manufacturing jobs left Greenville for Mexico, Governor Granholm stepped in and helped convince United Solar Ovonic to open a new manufacturing facility there. The Governor has met face to face with businesses from across the country and around the world – and her leadership is paying off. Her investment missions to Japan have attracted more than 1,030 new jobs and more than \$200 million in new investment from Japanese companies. But the Governor knows we have a lot more to do to create good paying jobs so our kids can stay in Michigan and work in Michigan. That's why she has a comprehensive Jobs Today, Jobs Tomorrow plan, which includes a new, \$2 billion 21<sup>st</sup> Century Jobs for Michigan Fund that will diversify our economy and create thousands of jobs. From cutting taxes for businesses to matching out-of-work citizens with jobs that exist right now, Granholm is working hard every day to turn our economy around.

#### PROTECTING OUR FAMILIES AND OUR CHILDREN

Granholm knows that Michigan must ensure the health and safety of our families and our children to maintain our excellent quality of life. That's why in just three years, her administration has made it possible for more than 292,000 uninsured or under-insured citizens to receive affordable prescription drug coverage and health care coverage; and they've created the MiRx drug discount program that's helping 35,000 Michiganians purchase prescriptions. To protect our children, she's gone after sex and violence in video games. Our neighborhoods are also safer after her administration put more than 1,400 dangerous parole violators and more than 800 sex offenders back behind bars.

#### **EDUCATING OUR KIDS**

Governor Granholm knows the best path to a bright economic future is a high-quality education. Our children deserve to reach their full potential in a safe environment with the tools they need to succeed. That's why the Governor created Project Great Start to increase access to quality child care in Michigan communities and to give parents the tools they need to be their child's first and most important teacher. The Governor is also working to create higher standards in Michigan's high schools so that all students are prepared for success in college and in life. She is fighting to make Michigan the first state in the nation to make college or vocational training accessible and affordable for every child in the state. And, despite eliminating almost \$4 billion in budget shortfalls – more than any other governor before her – Governor Granholm's 2006 budget increased funding for Michigan's K-12 schools to record levels, while asking schools to do more to help kids learn.

### Granholm Administration Accomplishments for Michigan Labor

Despite a Republican-led legislature, the Granholm administration has consistently and successfully fought for all Michigan citizens. Governor Granholm is committed to ensuring that every person in Michigan has the opportunity to enjoy a great life. Since taking office, Governor Granholm's administration has:

- Raised the Minimum Wage. Signed legislation that raises the state's minimum wage from \$5.15 per hour to \$7.40 per hour over the next two years. The minimum wage has not been increased since 1997.
- Extended Unemployment Benefits. Signed legislation to extend unemployment insurance benefits up to an additional 26 weeks for Michigan's unemployed workers. The law will distribute more than \$206 million in extended unemployment benefits.
- **Protected Workers from Unscrupulous Businesses.** Protected Michigan workers from unscrupulous businesses with first Executive Order.
- Protected Pensions. Issued an Executive Order to safeguard state investments and pensions and which will help restore investor confidence by taking a proactive approach toward advancing corporate reform.
- Protected Living Wages. Vetoed legislation passed by the Republicans to ban local living wage ordinances.
- **Protected Union Workers.** Vetoed Republican legislation that would have prohibited provisions in administrative rules that discriminate in favor or against a provider based on the existence of a collective bargaining agreement.
- Directed that State Departments Buy "Michigan First." Signed the "Buy Michigan First" Executive Directive, directing State of Michigan departments to purchase goods and services from Michigan-based businesses first. Now, more than 85 percent of the State of Michigan's contracts are awarded to Michigan-based firms, resulting in more than \$2.8 billion in state dollars going directly to Michigan businesses and workers.
- Made Affordable Prescriptions and Health Care Available. Extended affordable
  prescription drug coverage and health care coverage to more than 292,000 Michigan
  citizens.
- Proposed Making Affordable Private Health Care Plans Available to 500,000 Michiganians. Proposed a revolutionary new health care plan to provide access to affordable health insurance to more than 500,000 uninsured citizens. The Michigan First Health Care Plan will make affordable private health plans available to small business employees, the self-employed, and the working poor without access to traditional employer-based health insurance or government-run programs.
- Made Prescription Drugs Affordable for Uninsured. Created the MiRx Card, a
  prescription drug discount card program to help lower prescription drug costs for some of
  Michigan's one million uninsured residents. More than 35,000 uninsured seniors and
  people from working families have signed up for the discount prescription drug card
  program since its inception.
- Lowered Prescription Drug Costs through Bulk-buying Pool. Introduced the nation's first bulk-buying pool for prescription drugs and received federal approval from the

Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services to ensure lower prescription drug costs for more than 1.3 million Michigan citizens.

- Created and retained 331,000 jobs.
- Helped convince more than 90 companies to choose Michigan over more than a dozen other states.
- Made Michigan 2<sup>nd</sup> in the U.S. in new capital investment.
- Made Michigan the 5<sup>th</sup> friendliest state in the nation for small business.